

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5 A coating composition for making a microarray comprising: a  
gelling agent or a precursor to a gelling agent and microspheres dispersed in a  
fluid; wherein, upon coating the composition on a substrate, said microspheres  
become immobilized in the plane of coating and form a random pattern on the  
substrate. The substrate is characterized by an absence of specific sites capable of  
interacting physically or chemically with the microspheres.

10

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